Multinational Interoperability Council Newsletter 01/2006

Mar MIWG 2006

The Multinational Interoperability Council (MIC) held its annual Spring Multinational Interoperability Working Group (MIWG) Meetings (*Mar 06 MIWG*) at the Hilton Mission Valley Hotel in San Diego, California from 20-24 Mar 2006. About 90 representatives from the seven MIC member nations as well as observers from New Zealand and NATO Allied Command Transformation (ACT), members from several multinational fora groups attended the Mar 06 MIWG Meetings.

Plenary meetings for all attendees were conducted at the beginning and end of the conference. On the first day, Mr. Andres Kruesi, from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), gave a presentation about the role and mission of the ICRC and its relation to military operations. This was the first time a non-military organization provided a briefing to the MIWGs. In the future, other non-military organizations will be invited to brief the MIWGs on their programs.

The Capstone MIWG Chairman, Col Chuck Pattillo (USA) welcomed Mr. Joe Bonnet (USA), the new CDE MIWG Chairman, Col Dr. Frank Schindelhauer (DEU), chairing the Pilot Medical Group and members of their respective working groups. Based on a German initiative, Medical Staff members from MIC member nations attended the Pilot Medical Group to explore medical interoperability issues currently not being addressed by other multinational interoperability forums or groups. The preliminary results from the pilot medical group meeting show a need for a group to address coalition and multinational medical interoperability issues. The medical group's findings and recommendations will be presented for approval to the MIC Principals at their annual meeting, MIC 2006, in London from 5 to 8 June 2006.

Network MIWG worked on the MIC Griffin Domain Statement of User Need and proposed a new definition of IOC and FOC for the MIC Griffin Domain (MGD). A new MGD Roadmap will be developed and added as a new Network MIWG Annex to the CIEE 2008 paper.

DPP MIWG harmonized the Coalition Building Guide (CBG) with NATO terminology and AJPs 1, 3 and 5. DPP MIWG also completed the review and preparation of the National Decision Making Annex to the CBG and reviewed lessons identified by MIC member nations for doctrinal impact. They also completed their review of Change 1 to the CBG.

Log MIWG briefed the attendees on the status of Bi-Lateral Mutual Logistics Support Arrangements (MLSA). The Common Record of Logistics Reconnaissance was provided to Capstone MIWG for their approval. Besides the ongoing tasks, like Transportation Asset Coordination and Logistic Tracking Capabilities, Log MIWG proposed three new tasks: Common Equipment Visibility - Coalition Contractor Support Coordination and Coalition Logistics Policy and Training.

CDE MIWG, under new leadership, reviewed the CDE MIWG's Terms of Reference (TOR) and received MNE 4 knowledge support activities briefings from Germany and France. A Way Ahead strategy was proposed for the CDE MIWG with a special focus on Intelligence Concepts.

Ops MIWG completed their discussion paper on requirements for Common Operating Picture, finalized the draft of the MIC Information Exchange MOU document, reviewed the first draft of the Rapid Recce Checklist, reviewed the Project Security Instruction/Security Classification Guide (PSI/SCG) document, and approved their revised Ops MIWG TOR, while working on and progressing several other tasks.

Pilot Medical Group reviewed potential areas of work to include establishing a MIC Medical resource to support operational planning, identifying MIC Medical exercise/training activities to optimize interoperability, developing a strategy for interacting with other MIWGs, conducting a gap analysis and identifying constraints impacting medical interoperability.

Capstone MIWG reviewed the MIC Management Plan, developed a vision and mission statement for the revised MIC Strategic Plan and worked on the MIC 2006 Agenda. MGD Key requirements were developed; and new tasks for the MIWGs were scoped, which will be provided to the appropriate MIWGs for action. Capstone MIWG also developed a new cycle for the Gap Analysis and the Coalition Information Exchange Environment while finalizing the MIC Membership Policies and Procedures document. Many meetings were conducted with MIWG Chairmen in supporting collaborative information exchange between MIWGs.

Capstone MIWG: (Clockwise) - Col Neil (CAN), Lt Col Bassi(ITA), Col Martin (GBR), Col Estrate (FRA), Col Siegmann (DEU), and GPCAPT Prencel (AUS).

Upcoming events:

5-8 Jun 06	MIC Principals' Meeting, London, GBR
18-22 Sep 06	MIWG, CENTCOM, Tampa, FL, USA
13 Dec 06	MIC Principals' VTC

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